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PAGE 01 DAR ES 01999 301402Z

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PAGE 02

DAR ES 01999 301402Z

TAGS:

PREL, PGOV, RW, BY, US, TZ

SUBJECT:

PRESIDENT MWINYI ON RWANDA/BURUNDI

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1902 (NOTAL)

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. PRESIDENT MWINYI CALLED TOGETHER THE ENVOYS OF UNSC PERMANENT MEMBERS AND ARUSHA OBSERVERS TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN RWANDA AND BURUNDI. HE ESSENTIALLY REITERATED OUR CONVERSATION OF LAST WEEK (REFTEL),

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SAYING THAT RWANDA AND BURUNDI WERE INTERLINKED. WAS TUTSI VERSUS HUTU IN BOTH COUNTRIES. HE WILL CONVENE A SUMMIT ON APRIL 6 OF BURUNDI'S NEIGHBORS (TANZANIA, KENYA, UGANDA, ZAIRE, ZAMBIA AND RWANDA) TO DISCUSS WAYS TO FIND A PERMANENT SOLUTION TO THE RECURRENT CONFLICT THERE. HE MENTIONED HIS INTENT TO SEEK AGREEMENT TO DISPATCH A 200-PERSON OAU FORCE INTO THE COUNTRY TO PROTECT THE GOVERNMENT IN BUJUMBURA AND TO BOLSTER THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE. HE ALSO HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE OAU FORCE MIGHT BE GIVEN THE ROLE OF DISARMING THE CURRENT TUTSI MILITARY AND RECONSTITUTING THE ARMY TO REPRESENT ALL OF THE BURUNDI PEOPLE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE AFRICANS WANTED TO HELP BURUNDI, THE AFRICANS NEEDED THE HELP OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THE HELP HE WOULD BE SEEKING WOULD BE MORAL SUPPORT, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND FUNDING FOR THIS INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE.

3. ON RWANDA, MWINYI REHASHED THE HISTORY SINCE THE ARUSHA ACCORDS, INCLUDING RECENT EFFORTS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 DAR ES 01999 301402Z

TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO BRING THE PARTIES

TOGETHER TO IMPLEMENT THE PEACE ACCORDS, AN

UNSUCCESSFUL UNDERTAKING. THE ONLY SUGGESTION THAT

MWINYI COULD MAKE WOULD BE FOR FRANCE AND BELGIUM -
AND THE U.S. AS THE SUPER POWER -- TO BRING "PRESSURE"

ON PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA TO MOVE THE PEACE PROCESS

ALONG. MWINYI STRESSED HIS CONCERN WITH EFFORTS IN THE

UN TO WITHDRAW CURRENT UN FORCES THERE AND URGED IN THE

STRONGEST TERMS THAT THE UN FORCE BE CONTINUED AS LONG

AS NECESSARY.

4. IN ENSUING DISCUSSIONS, I COMMENTED THAT IN KIGALI THE RELEVENT DIPLOMATIC CORPS, TOGETHER WITH THE TANZANIAN FACILITATOR, WERE MAKING HERCULEAN EFFORTS TO MOVE THE ENTIRE PEACE PROCESS FORWARD, PUTTING ENORMOUS PRESSURE ON ALL PARTIES. I ASKED WHAT ELSE DID THE GOT SUGGEST. AFTER CONSIDERABLE HEMMING AND HAWING, FOREIGN MINISTER RWEGASIRA TENTATIVELY SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS SOME SORT OF SANCTIONS MIGHT BE APPLIED. HE WOULD NOT SPECIFY, HOWEVER, WHAT TYPE OF SANCTIONS HE HAD IN MIND. I POINTED OUT THAT DE FACTO SANCTIONS WERE IN PLACE IN THE SENSE THAT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAD BEEN POSTPONED BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF A GOVERNMENT IN KIGALI. BOTH MWINYI AND RWEGASIRA TOOK THE POINT BUT

HAD NO FURTHER COMMENT. MY EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES, AS WELL AS THE PRC AMBASSSADOR, EITHER CLAIMED IGNORANCE UNCLASSIFIED OF DETAILS IN BOTH RWANDA AND BURUNDI OR REMAINED SILENT.

5. COMMENT: THE TANZANIANS ARE OBVIOUSLY SEARCHING. MWINYI'S APPEAL TO EXTEND THE UN MILITARY PRESENCE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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DAR ES 01999 301402Z PAGE 04 RWANDA MAKES SENSE FREOM THIS PERSPECTIVE. WE WILL HAVE TO SEE WHAT COMES OUT OF HIS APRIL 6 SUMMIT TO DETERMINE HOW TO RESPOND TO A LIKELY AFRICAN REQUEST FOR FINANCING FROM THE DONORS TO INTERVENE THERE WITH AN OAU INTERVENTION FORCE. DE VOS

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